

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for collecting and organizing data comprising:
 - a video camera for capturing video images of a transaction;
 - an input device for collecting data associated with the transaction;
 - a database management system for organizing the video images and the data associated with the transaction into a database.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the data associated with the transaction includes time data.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein the data associated with the transaction includes date data.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein the data associated with the transaction includes monetary data.
5. The system of claim 1 wherein the video images are captured based upon a signal that is produced in response to the input device collecting data.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein the images are captured based upon a clock signal.

7. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

a terminal for allowing an operator to input queries into the database and receive the image and the data associated with the transaction in response to the queries.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein the transaction is a toll collection.

9. The system of claim 1 wherein the transaction is a financial transaction.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the transaction is a retail transaction.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the video images are captured based upon a bar code reader reading a bar code.

12. A method of creating a transaction based database comprising:
capturing an image of the transaction as it occurs;
collecting data correlating to the transaction;
storing the image and the data into a database such that a query into the database
using a portion of the data acts as a key for retrieving the image correlated to the data.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

triggering the capturing of the image based on the collecting of data.

14. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

triggering the capturing of the image based on a clock signal.

15. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

retrieving the image and the data from the database in response to the query.

16. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

displaying the image and the data on a monitor for an operator to view.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the operator makes adjustments to the data stored in the database.

18. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

displaying the next image and associated data on the monitor in response to the operator issuing a request to view the next image.

19. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

displaying the next image and associated data on the monitor in response to the operator issuing a request to view the next transaction in time.

20. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

displaying the next image and associated data on the monitor in response to the operator issuing a request to view the next transaction with a particular value in a particular data field.

21. A system for collecting data about a transaction comprising:

a camera for capturing images of documents related to the transaction;
a trigger system for triggering the camera to capture the images;
a computer system for correlating additional data with each image; and
a storage system for storing the images and the additional data.

22. The system of claim 21 wherein the trigger system is comprised of:

at least one light emitter that emits at least one beam of light;
at least one light detector for detecting the at least one beam of light; and
a pulse generator which outputs a pulse in response to the at least one light detector detecting an object breaking the at least one light beam.

23. The system of claim 22 wherein the object is a financial document.

24. A database system comprising:

a camera for capturing a first and a second image;

a generator for generating an identifier;

a storage medium for storing the first and the second image wherein the first and the second image are correlated via the identifier.

25. The database system of claim 24 further comprising:

an input device for receiving transaction based data related to the first and second image.

26. The database system of claim 25 wherein the input device includes a toll collector.

27. The database system of claim 25 wherein the input device includes a bar code reader.